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Douglas Streusand

"Victory, Conquest, and Governance: Imperial Consolidation in the Gunpowder Empires"

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

3:30 p.m.

306 Hagerty Hall

1775 College Road, Columbus, OH 43201

[Douglas E. Streusand](#) has studied Islamic civilization for 30 years. He is professor of international relations at the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College and adjunct professor at the Institute of World Politics.

Streusand's latest book, [Islamic Gunpowder Empires](#) (Westview Press, 2010), provides readers with a history of Islamic civilization in the early modern world through a comparative examination of Islam's three greatest empires - the Ottomans (centered in what is now Turkey), the Safavids (in modern Iran), and the Mughals (ruling the Indian subcontinent).

Streusand has previously taught at the University of Maryland-College Park, University of Maryland-University College, and The Johns Hopkins University School of Continuing Studies. His other publications include *The Formation of the Mughal Empire* in addition to numerous articles and reviews. He earned his PhD from the University of Chicago.

Lecture Abstract

The establishment of empire always required more than military success. Military victory, the elimination of direct competition for control of a particular territory, only began the process of transforming that territory into an orderly and productive province. Conquest required the establishment of governance. Governance required the active participation, not merely the passive consent, not only the indigenous elites that remained in place but of the general population. The terms of the initial establishment of governance defined the polities. The Ottomans, Safavids, and Mughals established governance in different ways; their regimes penetrated into the societies to different degrees. But for all three empires, military success was only the beginning of establishment and expansion.



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This event is co-sponsored by the [Department of History](#).

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